minor electrical short circuits and spontaneous combustion of coal etc. The Management has taken extensive measures in terms of intensive fire vigilance, elaborate network of fire detection and alarm and protection systems throughout the plant besides educating employees in avoiding fire incidents and effective fire fighting.

Entry of Multi-National Companies in Poultry Industries

6852. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of multinational companies are trying to enter the poultry industries in collaboration with major Indian industrial houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the impact of entry of these multinationals on small and marginal farmers in the country; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the Indian Poultry Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

New Research Centres in Kerala

6853. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) propose to set up new Research Centres for cash and horticultural crops in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the contribution made by the existing Research Centres in Kerala for development of agriculture in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing research centres in Kerala have developed around 50 improved varieties of various horticultural and plantation crops, viz. 7 in Coconut, 3 in Arecanut, 4 in Cashewnut, 8 in black-pepper, 4 in small Cardamom, 1 in ginger, 3 in turmeric 1 in pumpkin, 18 in tuber crops and 1 in lemongrass. The Centres have also developed production technologies and coconut based cropping systems which have contributed towards increased productivity and income.

[*Translation*]

Electronics Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

6854. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges in Surat, Baroda and Bharauch districts of Gujarat separately and the number of electronic exchanges out of them; and

(b) the details of the exchanges of those districts likely to be converted into electronic exchanges during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The number of telephone exchanges in Surat, Baroda and Bharauch districts of Gujarat as on 31.8.91 are 52, 55 and 33 respectively. The number